REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-18, which are all of the pending claims, under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, first, as being unpatentable over Claims 1-20 of copending application no. 10/011,926, and second, as being unpatentable over Claims 1-44 of copending application no. 09/865,256. The Examiner also objected to the drawings, objected to the Abstract, and objected to an informality in Claim 1.

More specifically, the Examiner objected to the drawings on the grounds that the blank boxes in Figures 2 and 3 should be labeled. In response, Applicants ask permission to amend these Figures, as shown in red in the enclosed Replacement Sheets, to label the blank boxes. The terms used to label these boxes are being taken from the specification, and thus no new matter is being added to the drawings.

The Examiner objected to the Abstract because it exceeds 150 words, and this opportunity is being taken to shorten the Abstract so that it does not exceed that word limit.

Also, Claim 1 is being amended to correct the typographical error in the claim. In particular, as the Examiner suggested, in lines 19 and 25 of original Claim 1, "said error signed" is being changed to "said error signal".

In view of the above comments, the Examiner is respectfully asked to reconsider and to withdraw the objections to the drawings, the Abstract and Claim 1.

In addition, Applicants are submitting herewith two terminal disclaimers. The first overcomes the double patenting rejection based on the '926 application, and the second overcomes the rejection based on the '256 application. Accordingly, the Examiner is also requested to reconsider and to withdraw the double patenting rejections of Claims 1-18 based on these two applications.

For the reasons set forth above, the Examiner is asked to reconsider and to withdraw the objections to the drawings, the Abstract and Claim 1. The Examiner is further requested to reconsider and to withdraw the double patenting rejections of Claims 1-18, and to allow these claims.

Every effort has been made to place this application in condition for allowance, a notice of which is requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' Attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is asked to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures (Two (2) Replacement Sheets for amended Figures 2 and 3 and two (2) Terminal Disclaimers)



